OPINION SUMMARY

MISSOURI COURT OF APPEALS EASTERN DISTRICT

) ED98940
)
) Appeal from the Circuit Court
) St. Louis County
) 12SL-CC00462
)
) Honorable David Lee Vincent III
)
) Filed: August 20, 2013

Donn McPherson (Movant) appeals the motion court's judgment denying on the merits without an evidentiary hearing his untimely filed *pro se* motion for post-conviction relief under Rule 24.035.¹

VACATED AND REMANDED.

<u>Division Five Holds:</u> The motion court erred in deciding Movant's untimely-filed motion on the merits. When a *pro se* motion for post-conviction relief is untimely filed, the motion court has no authority to address the merits, and the motion must be dismissed.

Opinion by: Gary M. Gaertner, Jr., J.

Robert M. Clayton III, C.J., and Michael K. Mullen, S.J., concur.

Attorney for Appellant: Jessica M. Hathaway

Attorneys for Respondent: Chris Koster and Robert J. (Jeff) Bartholomew

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT PART OF THE OPINION OF THE COURT. IT HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE READER AND SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED OR CITED.

¹ All rule references are to Mo. R. Crim. P. 2012, unless otherwise indicated.